



EVERY TUESDAY

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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Life on Wild Atlantic Rocks

RESCUING THE LIGHTHOUSE MEN

A GRIM winter battle between man and the sea has been fought out in the Atlantic off the wild north-west coast of Scotland.

Lighthouse-keepers on Dhu Heartach and Skerryvore rocks were imprisoned by the worst gales for fifteen years, and day by day the sturdy lighthouse ship Hesperus ran the gauntlet of the storm to free them.

They at last succeeded and the men of Dhu Heartach went back to their homes after 77 days of isolation, and the keepers of Skerryvore were taken off after 79 days on the rock.

Dhu Heartach (Gaelic for Black Quarry) lies 15 miles south-west of Iona, and Skerryvore is 20 miles farther out in the Atlantic; and so treacherous are the approaches to these rocks that the Hesperus can attempt to relieve them only at the turn of the tide. When waves break over the rock the lighthousemen cannot venture down to be taken off by the boat, and at Skerryvore, where the Hesperus has to moor almost a mile off the rock, a small boat must negotiate dangerous reefs.

Rough Summer Seas

Even in summer the seas around these rocks are never calm enough to allow the relief boat to come alongside, and the lighthousemen must be swung on to the boat by a lifeline attached to a derrick. On the sheltered side of the lighthouse there is a steel landing platform on which the men erect their derrick shortly before the relief boat arrives. At high tide the platform is awash, and at low tide the small boat from the Hesperus is in danger of running on to the reefs, so the reliefs must be made just as the tide begins to ebb.

Breakers often crash over the rock just as the men are being swung to the boat, and if they did not cling firmly to the line they might be swept away. A lighthouseman of some forty years experience has said that he has never known a life to be lost when a rock was being relieved; he has seen men swept off the landing platform by the waves but the line has saved them.

A Job For Cool Nerves

The derrick line also sends to the rock the lighthousemen who are taking over duty, as well as food and supplies of oil for the light. Once on the rock the men remain there for two months before being relieved, and sometimes, as at Dhu Heartach and Skerryvore recently, they cannot be taken off on time. It is a job for cool nerves for in a storm waves crash 60 feet up the tower and they can feel the lighthouse shudder. During the lonely weeks on the rock the lighthouse keepers cook their own food, bake their own bread, and pursue their hobbies. Some are experts at woodwork and others make boots and shoes.

When relieved by the Hesperus the men of Dhu Heartach and Skerryvore are taken to the

island of Erraid, west of Mull, where they live with their families in a little community. The children have their own school with one teacher, who lives on Mull and crosses the Atlantic every day she comes to school, for the Atlantic Ocean sweeps the channel between Erraid and Mull. At low tide, however, it is possible to cross on foot and the teacher closes the school according to the tide.

When the Hesperus comes in all the children gather on the quayside and are excused for being late for school; but usually they turn up far too early and sit knitting by the class-room fire. There are no shops and the villagers have either to cross to Mull or rely on the stores brought in by the Hesperus.

The cottages are built of granite hewn from the same quarry on Erraid which provided the granite to build the lighthouses of Dhu Heartach and Skerryvore.

When wives and children want to speak to their menfolk on the rock they use the radio telephone, and three times a day the lighthouse keepers thus keep in touch with the island. Most of them are born and brought up in the lighthouse service or come of seafaring stock.

WARM FRIENDS



Among the passengers on the Queen Elizabeth when she arrived at Southampton recently were these fur-clad travellers, Robert Scott Pierce and his Teddy Bear.

MUCH-TRAVELLED HERMAN

A MUCH-TRAVELLED little dog is Herman, former mascot of New Zealand soldiers who fought in Italy.

Herman started life as a puppy in Florence at the close of the campaign in Italy, and when a New Zealand soldier took a fancy to him Herman, too, became a New Zealander, was given a number—X9/101—and was issued with daily rations.

When his soldier friends became part of the New Zealand brigade which left Italy for Japan in 1945, Herman, of course, no longer a puppy, had to leave with them, and, after calling at Colombo, Singapore, Hong Kong, they all reached Japan early in 1946.

The soldiers returned to New Zealand some months later, and one of them took Herman to his home near Wellington city. The authorities, of course, insisted on Herman being placed in quarantine; but now he is free again, wearing that knowing look which a two-year-old who has travelled so far is entitled to wear.

Tea With Dick Barton

AN eleven-year-old schoolgirl from Westcliff-on-Sea was recently invited to rather an unusual tea-party. It was held in the canteen of Broadcasting House, and she was guest of the cast and producer of the "Dick Barton" series.

Catherine Howard, who has been listening to the Dick Barton episodes since they started, wrote recently to the cast and asked them to have tea with her. Instead she was invited by them to come and have tea at Broadcasting House, and, afterwards, to watch the show. She met nearly everyone connected with the series—including the effects girl!

Catherine's favourite members of the cast were Snowy White—"because he makes me laugh"—and, of course, Dick Barton. Her verdict on seeing them in the flesh was that "they are much nicer than she imagined."

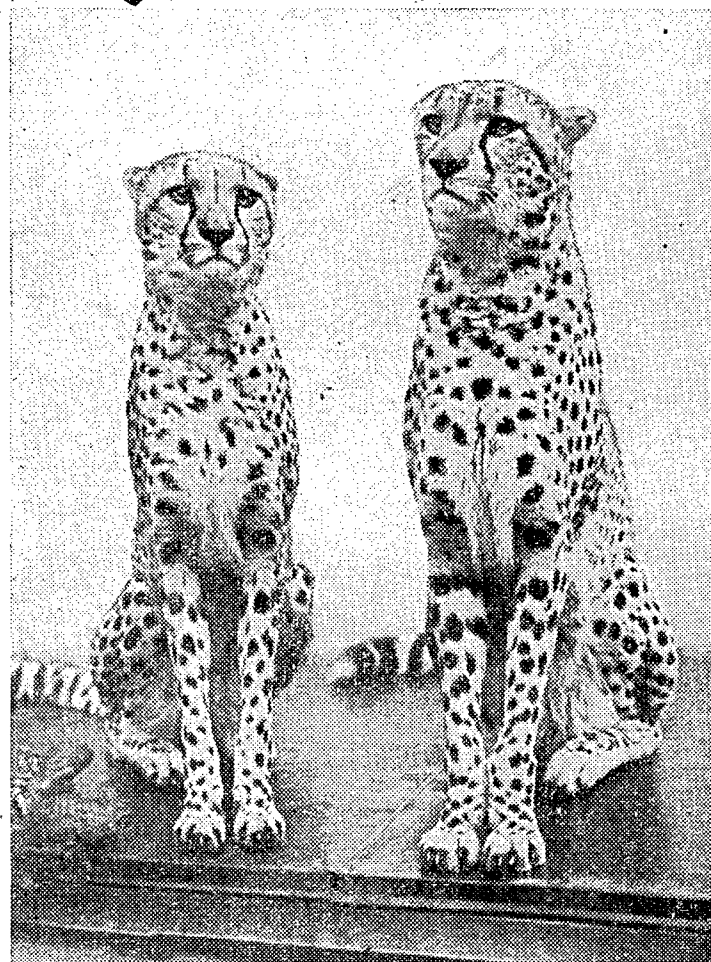
THE CAVERNEERS

CAVES in Tasmania, Australia, will soon be explored for the first time when the newly-formed Caverneering Club begins searching for prehistoric relics. If necessary the caves will be blown open to give entrance.

The Government geologist has said that Tasmanian caves might hold the bones of animals extinct for thousands of years and possibly those of early man; it was almost certain that man was in Tasmania 150,000 years ago.

Equipment will include collapsible boats for exploring underground rivers, dyes for tracing their courses, ropes, ladders, and miners' lamps. The club is claimed to be the first of its kind in Australia.

QUITE STILL, PLEASE



The photographer could not have wished for better sitters than these dignified cheetahs, Diana and Prince, at the London Zoo.

MISSIONARIES BY AIR

Transport Problems in Central Africa

THE first British aeroplane for carrying missionaries regularly by air has been ordered by the Missionary Aviation Fellowship.

This twin-engined four-seater Gemini, which has cost £5000, will set out on its first flight next summer. Already tested in the air, this model is believed to be most suitable for the service which the Aviation Fellowship in co-operation with the missionary societies is hoping to start.

One of the first flights of the Gemini will be to the vast areas of Central Africa which Livingstone opened up 70 years ago. The great missionary-explorer tramped over many thousands of miles of unknown territory, and much of it still remains unknown. Mission stations are dotted over the area in extreme isolation.

On the high plateau of Northern Rhodesia in the region of the great lakes a mission station often has round it an area as large as three or four English counties, and sometimes as large as Scotland or Wales. Transport problems are intricate and costly, for mission stations are hundreds of miles away from railways and often scores of miles from motor roads. Aero-

plane transport is thus becoming a necessity for inter-missionary work in Central Africa.

But much prospecting must be done before the new service can be established. Transported by the Gemini, the experts employed by the Fellowship will first of all discover what districts can provide suitable landing strips, and where petrol dumps can be built up and spare parts for the plane distributed. Two aeroplanes are needed to maintain a satisfactory service, and in this matter American co-operation will provide the second plane.

If the new experimental service proves successful it will be possible to enlarge it by chartering larger planes to take parties of missionaries to and from Britain and foreign countries.

Travel by plane should enable missionaries to come home to Britain more often than they can do now, and get back to their posts with more speed.

Remote areas in New Guinea and China will become more accessible if the new plans mature. Island visitation in the Pacific would be more regular, and many isolated peoples brought into touch with the Christian faith.

FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN RUSSIA AND BRITAIN

ONE of our main anxieties since the end of the war has been the growing differences between Britain and Russia—countries which fought as one in resisting and finally overthrowing the Nazis. Now, however, there is a good prospect that relations between this country and Russia will improve.

This change from anxiety to hope is chiefly due to Mr Bevin's courageous and personal intervention directly with Mr Stalin. What happened was this: On December 22 Mr Bevin, broadcasting the results of the important New York meeting of the Foreign Secretaries of Britain, United States, Russia, and France, stated that Britain had an important role to play in world affairs and that in the international field she did not tie herself either to America or Russia, but pursued a policy governed by her duties under the Charter of the United Nations. This, of course, did not mean that Britain was taking a line against Russia.

There was no immediate comment on this from Moscow. Then, on January 15, the newspaper Pravda, published by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, suddenly declared that Mr Bevin's speech meant that Britain held the Anglo-Soviet Treaty of Alliance as no longer valid. It was, alleged the Russian paper, replaced, in Mr Bevin's view, by the obligations under the United Nations Charter.

Hands Across the Ocean

A FELLOWSHIP of United States-British Comrades has been launched simultaneously in Britain and America. General James Doolittle, the famous American war leader, is the president, and our General Sir Frederick Morgan is vice-president.

The many friendships made while men and women were serving in the Anglo-American forces during the war were precious and valuable, and this new organisation provides the opportunity of continuing and strengthening them. Membership is open to American and British men and women, military or civilian, who served with a combined command or unit.

The Fellowship will publish magazines and periodicals, and arrange exchanges of students and cultural and social meetings.

GOATS ARE HIS HOBBY

BRITAIN'S youngest goat-keeper, 13-year-old Keith Millett, of Second Avenue, Bury (Lancs), has broadcast in Farmer's Half-Hour. Keith began keeping goats four years ago when his father brought him a nanny as a pet. Twelve months later he had his first pedigree goat and began breeding.

His "star," Jericho Snowdrop, was one of twins and very delicate at birth; but Keith went to work and saved her life. Today she weighs 160 lbs and has just won a challenge cup.

Rising every day at seven, Keith feeds his goats before setting out for Bury Grammar School. From his four goats he supplies 12 pints of milk a day to neighbours, and last year he made a profit of £24.

Now, the Treaty of Alliance was signed in 1942, in London, by Mr Eden, then Britain's Foreign Secretary, and Mr Molotov, the Soviet Foreign Minister. It was a grave moment in the life of Russia. The German armies were relentlessly pressing forward and the outcome of the war was not at all certain. The victories of El Alamein and of Stalingrad were yet to come. But both nations understood that only by steadfastly holding together against the German menace could there be any hope of victory in the war. There was also a fear that Germany, though defeated, might emerge and attack her neighbours for a third time this century. So it was decided that the Alliance must last for 20 years.

The Common Interest

On the Continent, especially in Russia and France, this anxiety about Germany still persists, and whatever may have been the differences between Russia and the Western Powers it has been always obvious that all Allied nations have a great interest in stopping Germany from causing more trouble. Were Pravda's allegation right, it would mean that scores of treaties signed by Britain with all nations of the world were invalid, and that the Charter of the United Nations would be the only obligation Britain had. Obviously such a point of view is mistaken.

So the British Government not only issued an official statement that Pravda had got it all wrong, but Mr Bevin sent a message to Mr Stalin saying Pravda's assertion was not his view of the Anglo-Soviet Treaty.

The Turning-Point

Mr Bevin's letter proved to be a real turning-point in the controversy, for Mr Stalin sent a very friendly reply, saying that he understood the British point of view fully and that there was no room for any further misunderstanding. Mr Stalin also indicated that talks on the proposed extension of the Treaty to make it valid until 1992 could now take place. Such an extension had, in fact, been proposed by Mr Bevin last year.

A way has thus been opened for ironing out the difficulties that have been piling up between Britain and Russia.

This hope for an improvement of Anglo-Soviet relations came at the same time as the talks on an Anglo-French Alliance. The two sets of alliances, strengthened by renewed assurances of friendship on each side, may well become the keystone in the building of European peace. They are aimed at keeping warrior Germany down and at the same time at securing lasting peace for the torn and tormented Continent. And, once European peace is assured, there is little doubt that our Continent, the cradle of Western civilisation, can flourish again.

Burma to Choose

As a result of the very friendly talks between the British Government and the Burmese delegates who were led by General Aung San, Burma is to become an independent country and the Burmese people are to decide whether they will remain within the British Commonwealth of Nations or not.

The Burmese people are to build the future Constitution of their country, and until they have done so there is to be a practically independent Interim Government, the Legislative Council, which will be treated by the British Government with the same consideration as Dominion governments.

Next April there will be an election in Burma in which the people will choose the members of a Constituent Assembly.

Burma is to send her diplomatic representatives to other countries and Britain is to help her to become a member of the United Nations. The Commander of the forces in Burma will come under the authority of its new Government as soon as inter-Allied arrangements, left over from the war, have come to an end.

This agreement is a shining example to the world of cordial co-operation between two very different peoples.

PLAYING THE GAME

Two unusual items have appeared in the sports news lately.

In the Rugby match at Dublin between Ireland and France no fewer than six of the visitors had their shirts torn to pieces. Then the supply of replacements gave out and a touch judge had to lend his shirt to a player. This seems to be either a tribute to the enthusiasm of the Irishmen or a reflection on the workmanship of French shirtmakers. Certainly it calls for stout hearts as well as stout shirts to contend with a pack of Irish forwards in full cry.

Nearer home our sportsmen try to make the best of a bad job on Saturday afternoons as well as the rest of the week. One ingenious football club, Windsor and Eton, appealed to each of its supporters to bring a lump of coal to the match and drop it in a sack at the gate, thus providing enough fuel to give the players a hot bath after the game.

5-Language Wireless

SIMULTANEOUS interpretation by wireless was tried out for the first time in history at the United Nations Headquarters at Lake Success during the first meeting of the Economic and Employment Commission. Each of the delegates carried a small receiving-set suspended from the neck by a small plastic strap containing an aerial. The multi-lingual sets, of which there are as yet only 68 in existence, are made of Bakelite and weigh about a pound. The listener can tune in to any one of the five official languages used at United Nations meetings (English, French, Russian, Chinese, and Spanish). This system does away with a tangle of wires used at previous experiments.

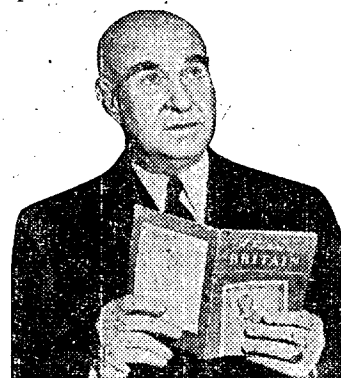
WORLD NEWS REEL

PLAYTIME FIRST. French children are to be encouraged to go in for sport by France's first Minister of Sport. He has announced that an hour of sports is to begin the day's work in all schools.

The American aircraft which the BOAC are using on the Bermuda to Baltimore service are to be replaced by Bermuda flying-boats.

The British occupation forces in Germany have been joined by Norwegian troops.

EXTINCT MONSTERS. Skeletons of dinosaurs have been unearthed in the Gobi Desert in Outer Mongolia. Some of them weigh up to 70 tons each. This is said to be the biggest graveyard of prehistoric animals yet found in the Eastern Hemisphere.



Mr Max Gardner, U.S. Ambassador to Britain, who is about to take up his duties here.

On their way to Paris to be pets, 100 baby turtles, each about the size of a half-crown, arrived at London Airport from New York not long ago.

A scheme has been launched in America to raise £3,000,000, for a campaign against cancer, expected to last for about five years.

IMMORTAL HARMONY. In Vienna musicians have played and sung in commemoration of Franz Schubert, who was born 150 years ago. A concert given at his birthplace was attended by the Burgomaster of Vienna, the Archbishop, and Allied officers.

The Belgian airline company, Sabena, has ordered a fleet of de Havilland Dove air liners, the first two of which were recently delivered.

A copy of *The Bay Psalm Book*, the first book printed in the old English Colonies in North America, was sold in New York for 151,000 dollars (£37,750). First published in 1640 at Cambridge, Massachusetts, there are only eleven copies in existence.

Delegations from Britain, the U.S., France, Holland, Australia, and New Zealand went to Canberra recently for a conference to frame a common policy for advancing the welfare of native peoples of the South Pacific.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has allocated 11,000 tons of meat and meat products to Britain and the British Forces overseas for the first quarter of this year.

HOME NEWS REEL

TALKING BOOKS. In the St Dunstan's Review, Sir Ian Fraser has announced that it is hoped that 2000 new talking-book machines will be manufactured during the year.

Road Safety slogans are being printed on milk bottle caps at Cambridge. The first householder to collect 50 different slogans will receive a portable radio set.

The GPO are at present delivering 20 million letters a week.

50,000 NOT OUT. England's Test captain, Walter Hammond, has scored 50,000 runs in first-class cricket, a feat achieved by only six other players—W. G. Grace, Jack Hobbs, Patsy Hendren, Philip Mead, Herbert Sutcliffe, and Frank Woolley.

Cost of the 10-year development plans for Sheffield University is estimated at £6,000,000. They include a university centre, new medical schools, hostels, and refectories for 3000 students in place of those for the present number of 1300. It is hoped to complete the scheme within the next 10 years.

The record number of 10,778,000 wireless licences were issued last year.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

PLAYING THEIR PART. 70 handicapped Scouts (blind, deaf, or crippled) will be attending the 6th World Jamboree in France this year as part of the British contingent of 8000.

Miss Tucker and Miss Goodson, after a 10 weeks' journey from their homes in South Australia, are setting off from London to join one of the Guide International Relief teams in Germany. One of them has already had experience in relief work with the Guide International Service in Malaya.

NEW LAID. A cockatoo laid this year's first London Zoo egg.

Thirty-two niches in the choir screen of Ripon Cathedral, empty since the screen was made in the 15th century, are being filled with statues sculptured by Mr Esmond Burton.

A teachers' training college for about 200 students has been established in Weymouth College, which was used by the Admiralty during the war.

MAGIC DAY. On a national day of magic, not long ago, when conjurers gave shows throughout the country, £1793 was raised for the NSPCC.

An eight-year-old girl, Sheila Bayley, died in making a brave attempt to save her younger brother when they both fell through thin ice on a pond near Newport, Shropshire.

All food parcels to individuals in Europe must now be sent direct through the post, but parcels "for general relief" still through the Save Europe Now organisation, 14 Henrietta St, WC2.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation is examining a scheme to establish a flying-boat base at Cliffe, between Gravesend and Rochester, with a landplane base near by.

In the course of her tour Princess Elizabeth will wherever possible take the opportunity of seeing members of the Guide Movement in South Africa. These will be her first public appearances in Guide uniform since she was appointed Chief Ranger of the British Empire.

A YOUNG UNO. RAF Sergeant Geoffrey Geldard, a Blackpool Scoutmaster stationed at Kallang Airport, Singapore, is running a Troop of over 100 Air Scouts of different nationalities.

The Plane Reveals the Past

PERSIA is now on her feet again, and has hastened to mark her recovery by publishing a new map of her territory. It is a map of aeroplane photographs which show not only what the ground is like now, but reveal also what was there in the days of her ancient glory.

In this album of the past are views of the great frontier wall which ran for 100 miles from the Caspian across the now bare plain to the northern mountains, and was built as a defence against the Asiatic hordes. It is still known as Alexander's Bar-

rier, and also as the Red Snake—Quigil-Yilcum—though little is left of it to be seen except from high overhead. It is a smaller edition of the Great Wall of China, and was also dotted with forts at intervals.

This is yet another example of what aerial photography, first practised in England, can tell us of the buried past.

After Persia may come its neighbour Iraq, where the prize awaiting it in surveying is one of the richest sites in the world, the lost city of Old Baghdad—20 miles long.

A Learned Editor

FEBRUARY 11 marks the centenary of the death of Macvey Napier, one of the most learned Scotsmen of his time. He was a distinguished editor of the famous Edinburgh Review, and attracted contributions from some of the most celebrated writers of his generation. Macaulay's well-known essays made their first appearance under his editorship, and Thomas Carlyle, Thackeray, John Stuart Mill, and Hallam also wrote for him.

Napier is also noted for his work for the Encyclopedia Britannica. In 1814, at the request of the publisher, Archibald Constable, he began to compile a six-volume supplement to that great work. Later he undertook the formidable task of editing the 7th edition of the Encyclopedia, which ran to 22 volumes. Articles for this edition were written by men of such calibre as James Mill, Malthus, Dugald Stewart, and Sir James Mackintosh, all of whom Napier counted among his closest friends.

FOUND BY NEWS-REEL

IN 1944 an American officer rescued a boy from the ruins of a house in Brest. The boy, who was suffering from a lost memory, was taken to Paris, where he joined a famous boys' choir. While singing carols recently, the choir was filmed for a newsreel which was seen by friends of the boy's parents. This led to the boy being found, and as soon as he saw his father, he regained his memory.

Last of Brunel's Wooden Viaducts

THE last two timber viaducts on the GWR system, designed by the famous engineer, I. K. Brunel, are now being dismantled.

They are 450 and 600 feet long and 70 feet in height, and were constructed to carry the Dare Branch over deep valleys near Aberdare in North Glamorgan-shire when the line was opened in 1855.

With the closing of the branch line the viaducts became redundant. The dismantling is being carried out by a gang of seven men using a steam crane and hand winches.

Some 25,000 cubic feet of valuable timber will be salvaged and made available for use as shuttering, piling, footbridges, joinery work, and for laying a new floor in a Carriage and Wagon Repair Shop at Pontypool Road.

YOUTH CLUB ON WHEELS

A TRAVELLING youth club, in a converted bus, has started on a useful journey in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. Equipped as a normal clubroom the bus has a sewing-machine, joinery tools, craft materials, and living accommodation for the teacher, and it will travel all over the north, making one-night stands at smaller centres where there is no permanent youth centre. This club bus is sponsored by the Church of Scotland.

Souvenirs of Scotland

THE Scottish Tourist Board is taking steps to prevent worthless, tawdry "souvenirs" being sold in Scotland by organising a national competition for new ideas and designs in the making of souvenirs.

In pre-war days, it is felt, the typical souvenir on sale did little credit to Scottish art and workmanship. Indeed, some were manufactured outside Scotland, many coming even from distant Japan and flooding the market.

The purpose of the Tourist Board's competition is to establish a high standard in the making of souvenirs which will be characteristic of the country, so that when visitors take them home they will keep fresh their pleasant memories of Scotland.

Feeding Time



At the RAF Guard Dog School, at Staverton in Gloucestershire, the Alsations which protect airfields from intruders are now being trained by WAAFs.

RIVER HOMES

SINCE the war so many people have made homes for themselves on boats on the Thames that the Port of London Authority and the Corporation of the City of London propose to make the registration of these boats compulsory.

Scores of people, unable to get houses, have bought ex-Service boats and converted them into snug little river houses, and, as more of these craft become available, the PLA expect hundreds to appear on the river. Many of these houseboats have no adequate provision for the disposal of refuse, which is being thrown into the river, thus spoiling some of the beauty spots of the Thames.

The standard of living should be much like that of a normal house, but the PLA feel that in many cases this standard is not reached, and at present there is no means of control. By making registration compulsory the PLA hope to find out how many river houses there are and secure a satisfactory standard of living.

A Lesson From the Bat

THE National Institute for the Blind is seeking a new way of helping the sightless by taking a hint from the bat.

The saying "As blind as a bat" does an injustice to the bat which, though it does not see very well, can hear better than nearly any other living creature. This serves it instead of sight, because besides its acuteness of hearing it carries also in its larynx an instrument for producing some sounds that none but itself can hear.

These sounds, shot out in one-thousandth of a second in waves more than one-thousandth smaller and more highly pitched than any human ear can hear, echo back from any object that the bat is approaching, and so enable him to avoid it.

So sensitive are these natural gifts that the bat can not only

flit about a darkened room without coming into collision with the walls or furniture, or with wires stretched across it, but in the open air at dusk can find the insects it is hunting. Professor Hartridge, F.R.S., one of the first to examine this procedure, has shown also that it can find a way through a just-opened door in the darkened room.

The National Institute of the Blind is supporting an inquiry for an artificial instrument which, carried by blind people, will enable them to move freely or more freely without hurt among objects or in surroundings which they cannot see. If the inquiry succeeds it will afford a striking example of the adaptation of a natural faculty in a lower species as an artificial aid to a human need.

PUPPETS ON SHOW

AN exhibition, Puppetry in Education, is to be held by the Educational Puppetry Association at the College of Preceptors, 2 and 3 Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1, from February 17 to February 22 (10 a.m. to 9 p.m.).

There will be shows daily at 10.30 a.m., 2.30, 6.30, and 8 p.m., except on Wednesday. Puppets of all types will be on show, and there will also be demonstrations of ways of making a puppet.

Flying High

THE US Army are experimenting with German V2 rockets, and they have received many offers from people who desire to travel in one when it is launched a hundred miles into space.

Dr van Allen, of Johns Hopkins University, says that if a person were allowed to go he would feel only slight pressure at first, but within a minute of take-off he would be subjected to five times the normal gravitational pull. As the rocket descended the passenger would be released from his pressure cabin and would make a leisurely descent by parachute.

The US Army have declined the offers with thanks.

Cup of Kindness

ON a night of the year 1901 a P and O liner went ashore on Tung Yung Island, east of Foochow, and in that hour found friends in need. The Chinese authorities saved all on board, as well as the mail, and the P and O Company, in token of their gratitude to the rescuers, presented a Silver Cup to the Viceroy of the Province, Hsu-Ying-Kuei, as well as something other than tea to fill it.

It disappeared when the Japanese took possession of Foochow, but was picked up last year in a second-hand shop. Now, just 46 years after it was presented, it has come back to ornament the company's collection in Leadenhall Street.

A CHRISTIAN WORKING PARTY

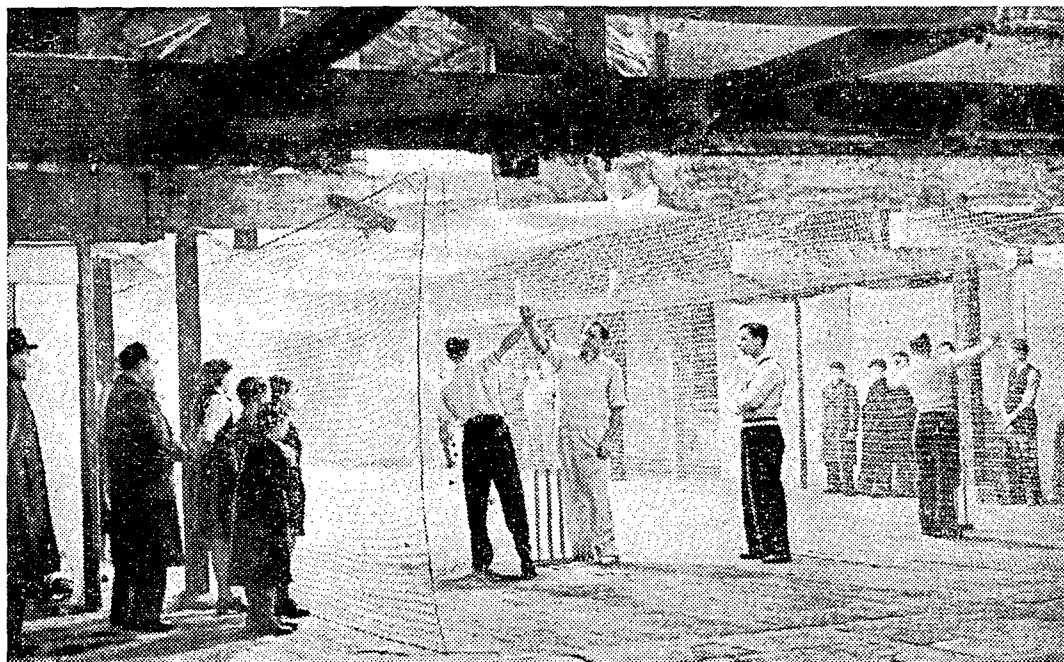
GERMAN prisoners-of-war have volunteered to help to rebuild the Parish Church of St Leonards, adjoining Hastings, which was destroyed by a flying bomb. They are hewing stone for the church in a quarry at Crowhurst, a few miles from Hastings, and working beside them is a Rural Dean, Canon C. C. Griffiths.

Canon Griffiths came across the Crowhurst quarry, which was disused, and noticed that the stone was just what was required.

A Young Fire-Fighter

FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD Anthony Alderton, of King's Lynn, Norfolk, has one ambition in life—to be a fireman. He has his own fire-engine, a converted bicycle, which has a small tank hose, a ladder, and a bell. Most of his spare time is spent at the fire station asking questions and watching the firemen at their drill, and it was this knowledge that stood him in good stead recently when a fire broke out in a car in a lock-up garage.

Anthony dashed to the scene on his home-made fire-engine, broke the door down, and with his small hose tried to get the fire under control. But the flames were too far advanced, so he phoned the fire brigade, and then went back to the garage. When the firemen arrived they found Anthony, very dirty and bedraggled, still keeping the flames down, and, thanks to his efforts, the fire was soon put out.



Winter Cricket School

In a disused cotton mill at Rochdale cricket enthusiasts can get net practice and tuition from Cecil Pepper, the Australian all-rounder, seen here instructing a young bowler.

Schoolgirls Keep House



Members of an interior decoration class at Sawston Village College discuss with Mr Frank Austin a problem in planning, using model furniture.

Six schoolgirls of Sawston village in Cambridgeshire, aged from 12 to 14, recently had a great adventure. They went to live in a house by themselves for a week, taking their own ration books and doing all their own housekeeping.

The house was a model home designed by the grown-up members of an evening class at the Sawston Village College. This is a type of college designed to foster traditional village life and to introduce new interest in the arts and crafts.

The spare-time home-designers of Sawston—mill-workers, housewives, schoolteachers—guided by Mr F. A. Austin, were assisted in furnishing the house by the

Council of Industrial Design, which placed utility furniture, coupons, and its library facilities at their disposal.

Some of the furniture was made by local handymen. The stools were made by the boys of St Christopher's School, Letchworth, Herts, who used for this work the resin-bonded plywood technique which was developed during the war for the construction of Mosquito fuselages.

The curtains for the model home were made by the six girls who went to live there for a week, and one of the girls, Elizabeth Tharby, aged 12, advised on the planning of a room for a girl of her own age.

UNDER THE MOTOR IN COMFORT

A SPECIAL elevated runway to take double-decker buses has been erected for final inspection work at the Leyland Motor works at Leyland, in Lancashire, and one of its functions will be to facilitate underfloor inspection by the Certifying Officers of the Ministry of Transport.

The ramp, which is over 100 feet long and rises to a height of about six feet, consists of two heavy-sectioned steel - channel runways spaced to take vehicles up to eight-feet wide. Between

the runways there is a clear working floor space, allowing inspection without stooping.

It is considered more helpful than either an inspection pit or a hoist. "We find it more convenient to use than a hydraulic hoist," said one of the Certifying Officers, "because there are no blind spots; and it also gives a greater sense of security. Inspection pits are more tiring to work in and, of course, have less natural light than the new ramp."

Increasing Industrial Efficiency

THE life of our nation depends on its industry, and so no effort must be spared to make it the most efficient industry in the world. Under the Industrial Organisation Bill, recently introduced in the House of Commons, some of our great industries are to have Development Councils.

Such a council will be a central body for all the firms in any particular industry, and its purpose will be to help to increase the efficiency, and therefore the out-

put, of that industry as a whole.

The Development Council will not have powers to give orders to industrialists on how to run their business, but it will act rather as a sort of information office for the industry, carrying out scientific research and collecting useful knowledge about all matters concerning the industry. The council will also promote the training of work-people of all ages and grades, and it will undertake the recruiting of new workpeople.

STORING THE FILM TREASURES

OF the making of books there is no end, it is said, and it appears that the same thing is happening with films.

The British Film Institute possesses a library which now runs to some 13 million feet of film. The main difficulty here is to find space for the ever-increasing piles of celluloid which are mounting up at Aston Clinton, in Buckinghamshire, where the National Film Library is stored.

Officials are now looking for a 12-acre site where the library would extend to five storeys above ground and five below. It is to be hoped that they will find a suitable site, for the library will be of untold value to the historian of the future. Indeed, early news-reels already possess considerable documentary interest.

Among the items thus recorded for all time are shots of Queen Victoria riding in the Diamond Jubilee procession, troops leaving for the Boer War, and early aviators in their almost incredible flying-machines.

As film celluloid tends to disintegrate after a certain time, these film treasures are being preserved for future generations by occasional reprintings.

Hope For the Untouchables

THERE are welcome signs in South India that the conditions of life of the "Untouchables" are at last beginning to improve. Victims of the rigid Indian caste system, these unfortunate people have often been denied benefits which are extended to those of higher caste.

Now it is reported that more and more Hindu temples are opening their doors to the Untouchables. This is a great step forward, and may be an indication that the age-long religious prejudices of India are at last breaking down. Another sign of the new change of heart in India is that the Untouchables are also being allowed to enter restaurants and schools from which they have been debarred in the past.

Alpine England



Not a Swiss scene, but a picture of two girls setting out for a ski run at Edale, in Derbyshire.

The Editor's Table

A REVIVAL IS NEEDED

SIR GEOFFREY LAYTON, the Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, has startled all thoughtful people by his account of the inquiries he has been making among the young men of 18 and 19 who are joining the Navy. Of every hundred recruits only twenty-three could repeat the Lord's Prayer without a mistake, only twenty knew where Christ was born, and only forty-five knew what Easter commemorated. Seventy in a hundred knew who Christ was, and eighty-three were able to say what Christmas Day celebrated; but seventy-five in a hundred did not know the meaning of Whitsun.

Allowing for examination "nerves," for bad memory, and for lack of schooling as a consequence of the war or of ill-health, this revelation would still seem to show that the basic facts of the Christian faith, and the truths that they stand for, are not being taught in our schools adequately or with sufficient emphasis. And we do well to ask how many boys and girls are growing up without knowing the elementary truths of the Christian faith?

THE CN stands with those who believe that the youth of our land represent Britain's richest treasure; in them lie almost all of Britain's fondest hopes. In the recent years of testing young Britons fully maintained the greatest traditions of their land.

But these traditions, to which each generation has added further glory, have come out of the long years of Christian faith and practice in which we have all been nurtured.

*Slowly the Bible of the race is writ,
And not on paper leaves, nor
leaves of stone.*

And it is not enough merely to inherit a tradition; we must make it our own and pass it on. To do this, Britain needs a revival of the Christian religion—needs it NOW!

Our school system is being overhauled, and soon our boys and girls will have an extra year of school life. Is it too much to hope that the teaching of Christian principles—of *Christianity as a way of life*—will have the supreme place in our schools; that this teaching be impressed on young minds at their most impressionable stage?

CHRISTIANITY will not, of course, be remade into the most vital force in this country merely through the mechanical learning of the Lord's Prayer or what the chief Christian festivals stand for. Britain needs the translation of those facts into daily living, and that is a task we must all undertake.

Good News For Miners

IT is encouraging to hear that progress is being made in grappling with pneumoconiosis, the lung disease to which miners are particularly exposed in the dusty atmosphere underground.

At a recent conference on this subject at Cardiff certain experts agreed that, although the problem is not yet solved, no new recruit to the mines, if he has a clean bill of health, need fear contracting pneumoconiosis.

Mr Shinwell, Minister of Fuel and Power, said, at the conference, that the last stubborn elements of this disease are being fast dispersed, and the workers and their families can be confident that the near future will see this black shadow removed.

Anything that affects the welfare of the miners affects eventually the welfare of us all.

Good News From Miners

THE best news for some time from Britain's mines is that in a recent week the number of men employed in the collieries rose by 1100 over the previous week. Lack of sufficient miners has been a chief reason for our coal shortage, so it is heartening indeed, to hear that there is a good chance of reaching Mr Shinwell's target of 700,000 men working in the mines before the end of spring.

Coal production too has risen. In January nearly one and a quarter million tons more was produced than in the same month last year. This was achieved by 1500 fewer miners than in January 1946.

FEBRUARY'S FLOWERS

BESIDE the garden path the crocus now
Puts forth his head to woo the genial breeze,
And finds the snowdrop, hardier
visitant,
Already basking in the solar ray.
James Thomson

Under the E



PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW

If messenger boys can express themselves

WRAPPING up isn't the only protection for children. Sometimes they need a dressing down.

A MAN says he is a motorist of twenty years standing. It's a pity his car doesn't work.

SOME people add up in a flash. Most prefer a steady light.

THE modern teen-age child soon gets taller than mother. A growing habit.

SOME boys are always exchanging postage stamps. Others stick to them.

Road Folly and Road Sense

NOT long ago a boy of five in Deptford was killed in a street while playing "last cross." Three times the little fellow just managed to avoid the wheels of buses, but the fourth time he tried to beat his companions in this tragic game he was killed by a bus.

It comes as a big surprise to many of us that there are still a few boys and girls who like to play this sadly stupid game. For, as recent road casualty figures have tended to show, our schoolboys and girls have been setting quite an example to grown-up pedestrians.

As a contrast to the gloomy story from Deptford there is bright news from Hunstanton, the Norfolk seaside town, where there has not been a fatal road accident for more than seven years. Yet the town has no traffic lights, no pedestrian crossings, and no one-way streets. This splendid record has been achieved entirely by the road sense and discipline of the citizens, among whom, of course, Hunstanton's boys and girls have played a worthy part.

Easy as ABC

SIR DAVID MAXWELL FYFE, K.C., M.P., has underlined Britain's national needs today with the five vowels, as follows:

A for Activity, E for Enterprise, I for Initiative, O for Originality, and U for "Your-selves."

Nobody is likely to quarrel with Sir David's choice; and we feel sure that he will not mind us giving an additional list in like fashion:

A for Adaptability, E for Energy, I for Inventiveness, O for Optimism, and U for Unity.

JUST AN IDEA

Waste of wealth is sometimes retrieved; waste of health seldom; waste of time never.

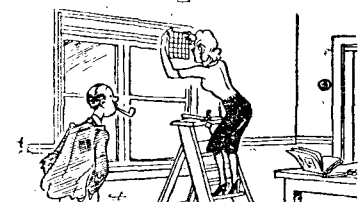
Editor's Table

A TRADE UNIONIST has been explaining what is a blackleg. We suggest a small boy's after football.

MOST men will be pleased that the coloured waistcoat has come to stay, says a tailor. Depends who is inside it.

NORWEGIAN Airways are planning to give tourists lunch over the North Pole. Why not high tea?

CHILDREN can do their homework at Wimbledon Library. Then it won't be homework.



A LADY says she ought not to use her clothing coupons for curtains. They aren't big enough.

THINGS SAID

IF we put into our work half the enthusiasm we put into our sport, there would soon be an end of food shortages, clothes rationing, and homelessness.

Cyril Osborne, M.P.

THE motto for the agricultural industry must be "Go all out."

Sir Frank Soskice

WE are still a great nation; and in wisdom and experience, if not in size, the greatest nation in the world.

Viscount Cranborne

I WOULD like to help to make a Third Programme nation, a nation that knows so much about the standard of music, great drama, and the visual arts that those things become a passionate necessity.

Miss Ellen Wilkinson

PEOPLE who have a daily help every day of the week except Sunday are living in the lap of luxury. What more do they want?

Mr Justice Vaisey

Lover of Dovedale

THE death of Mr Frederick Algernon Holmes of Buxton has robbed England of a doughty protector of her lovely countryside, particularly of Dovedale, much of which, largely owing to his personal interest, has been preserved for all time.

A great lover of the wide open spaces, Mr Holmes began his great work over forty years ago. His ruling passion was to preserve for nature-lovers those cameos of our countryside which, if once lost, would be lost for ever. He spent much time coaxing landowners, fighting speculators, and enrolling the support of public authorities as well as private individuals, and his name will be honoured by all to whom the call of the open air is irresistible. Truly, the youth of Britain owes much to men like F. A. Holmes.

His legacy to his fellow countrymen is as beautiful as it is enduring—six thousand acres of his beloved Dovedale.

COLD COMFORT

A CORRESPONDENT who spent last winter in Germany tells us that in his billet, a modest house on an exposed hillside, the water never froze even in the bitterest weather, and with little heating available. At that time he was getting letters from his wife telling how she had to climb a ladder into a draughty, dirty loft in vain efforts to thaw pipes and cistern.

If the Germans, like the Americans, have guarded against such an obvious risk in their homes, can anyone explain why British builders have installed domestic plumbing which is absolutely certain to freeze in a spell of wintry weather? It shows a lack of foresight, to say the least of it; and unfortunately there is little reason to believe that the thousands of new homes now being built are much better in this respect than the older ones.

HOROSCOPE FOR MOUNT EVEREST

IN olden days it was the fashion to have your horoscope cast by the stars in order to find out what the future had in store for you. In those ignorant days a horoscope might even be produced for an army or a kingdom.

Until recently, however, there has been no record of a horoscope being cast for a mountain. The Dalai Lama, the ten-year-old ruler of mysterious Tibet, has declared that the horoscope for his country reveals that conditions will be difficult for the next three years and that no mountaineering will be permitted "until the horoscope improves."

As a consequence, a proposed expedition to Mount Everest will have to be postponed since permission can only be granted by the Dalai Lama. It is something new for our twentieth century to have to heed the warnings of astrology. The mountaineers will have to wait patiently until the stars look down more auspiciously upon Tibet, the roof of the world, and upon the soaring, still-unconquered peak of Everest.

Bold as Brass



Ten-year-old Deryck Diffey, of Southsea, an entrant in the British Championship for brass band players.

STAMP NEWS

TOWARDS the end of this month New Zealand peace stamps of eightpence, ninepence, and one shilling values will no longer be sold in New Zealand post offices, and the other denominations in NZ peace stamps will also be withdrawn later on.

The NZ peace series will be replaced by the 1935 pictorial or by the current King George VI stamps.

The remaining denominations of the pictorial stamps will be withdrawn from sale on April 30, so that from May 1 onwards a complete set bearing the portrait of the King will be on sale.

A new denomination of the King George VI series, one shilling and threepence, will replace the current duty stamp of that value.

HOLLAND recently issued its annual set of stamps carrying a surcharge to be devoted to various charities and cultural undertakings. The stamps are a set of five showing a child riding a wooden merry-go-round horse. Their values and colours are: two cents, bluish-grey; four cents, dark green; seven-and-a-half cents, red; ten cents, mauve; and 20 cents, blue.

TWO small Swiss stamps called the Double Geneva were sold in London recently for £230.

A COLLECTION of 9000 Colonial stamps in an album was sold in London recently for £1550.

Man of a Thousand Inventions

WHEN we go to the cinema, listen to the gramophone, or send a telegram we ought to spare a grateful thought for Thomas Alva Edison, who was born on February 11 just a century ago; for in the story of their development the name of this great American inventor has an honoured place.

Edison was born at Milan in Ohio, his mother being of Scottish descent. His education was scanty and at the age of 12 he was a newsboy on the Grand Trunk Railway Line running into Detroit; but his inventiveness soon showed itself. Purchasing some old printing type he rigged up a press-machine in the luggage-van of a train and printed a newspaper of his own which he handed out at the various stations. Called The Grand Trunk Herald, it was the first newspaper printed on a train.

Young Thomas also had with him in the van a small electric battery of his own making, and when one day this burst into flames and set fire to the van, the angry guard kicked him out unceremoniously at the next stopping-place, a wayside station.

A Second Adventure

The crestfallen lad then had a further adventure, and one which changed his life, for he was just in time to save the stationmaster's little daughter from being run over. The grateful parent befriended the boy and taught him all he could of telegraphy. In a very short time the pupil astonished his teacher by stringing a wire along the fences from the station to the nearest town and transmitting telegrams at a shilling apiece.

Till he was fifteen Edison earned his living as a telegraph operator in various American cities. It was his habit to wander about the country, and he rarely stayed at work in the same place for more than six months. Then, very quickly, he would spend all his hard-earned savings in a glorious burst of experiment.

Such a procedure was bound to leave him poor, but all the time Edison was laying the foundations of his future success. Experiment and invention were meat and drink to him, and even

in his darkest moments of despair and failure his faith in himself never wavered.

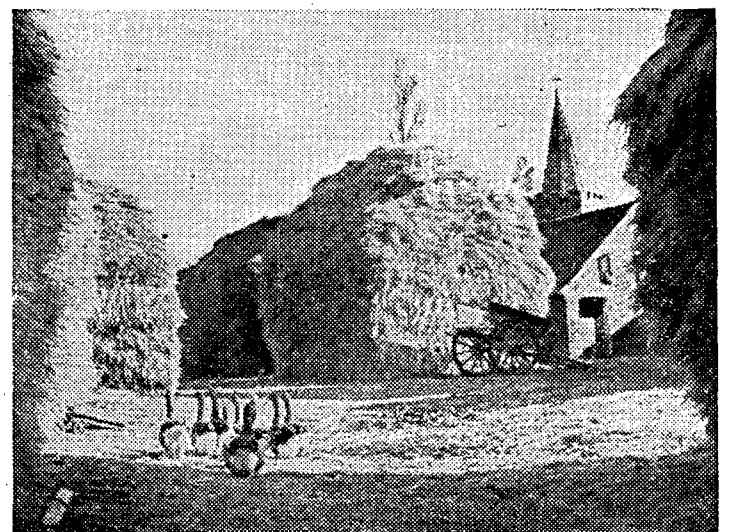
In 1868 he took out his first patent for an electrical vote-recorder. By using currents of varying strength he also developed a system whereby several telegraph messages could be sent over one wire at the same time. These were the first of a long series of inventions for telegraph and telephone, including the carbon transmitter.

The Tape Machine

Happening one day to be in the New York Stock Exchange when the indicator broke down, Edison volunteered his services and quickly repaired it. Soon afterwards he invented the printing telegraph to take its place; and from this device all modern "ticker tape" machines are descended.

For some time Edison had been toying with the idea of capturing the sound of the human voice and putting it away, in "cold storage" as it were, so that it could be reproduced at will. One day, while experimenting with a revolving cylinder to which a diaphragm and a trumpet were attached, he found that he had made the first phonograph, ancestor of the gramophone as we know it. Shortly afterwards he produced the kinetoscope which threw moving figures on to a screen. Thomas Edison thus played some part in the development of the modern talking pictures, though not so great a part as has sometimes been claimed for him.

Thomas Alva Edison was an electrical wizard, and when he died in 1931 he left behind him a wealth of inventions that no man has ever equalled. Many thousands of patents were taken out in his name, and modern civilisation owes much to this great inventive genius who was once a newspaper boy.



THIS ENGLAND

A farmyard in the Trent Valley village of Twyford, Derbyshire

Strange Pets of the African Veld

It was recently announced that Straw, a handsome lion at the London Zoo, was formerly the pet of a South African bungalow, where he not only followed his master, Mr Cleland Scott, about like a dog, but also attended parties at the bungalow.

Straw's friendliness, however, is by no means unique, writes a South African correspondent. For in the lonely places of South Africa, many isolated white men often find comfort in the companionship of pets, ranging from ordinary domestic animals to the strangest creatures of the bushveld.

For example, a South African farmer I knew some years ago had a pet duiker, a small species of deer, which he had rescued as a fawn from the native stockpot. So tame was this duiker that, when its owner was giving a tennis party, it would approach the tea table and beg for cake.

A Game on the Lawn

Its favourite trick, however, was a game of "touch last" with the farmer's bull terrier. Deer and dog were the greatest of friends, but the duiker would lower its horns in mock anger, and even chase his playmate round the lawn.

Another friend of mine, a mining engineer, found a small red-haired bush pig terribly burned and squealing pitifully after a veld fire had destroyed its mother. The engineer took it home and cured its blistered little body. After that, any time anyone called on him, there was a clicking of cloven trotters on the bungalow floor, and "Alfred," now fully grown, and with perfect party manners, would thrust a welcoming snout into the visitor's hand.

Once, while night-shooting, my lamp disclosed a pair of green eyes shining from a hole in a tree trunk. Moving cautiously in case it should be a snake, I discovered a small female "bush baby" or veld lemur. I took it

home, and soon "Jemima" became a grand little companion in the farmhouse.

Another strange pet which belonged to a farmer friend of mine was a crested "Go away" bird he had found with a broken wing one day. The species derived this name from its cry, which sounds remarkably like "Go away! Go away!" This bird lived in an improvised cage until its wing had recovered sufficiently to fly short distances. Even after regaining its freedom, however, it would always return at night to roost in its cage.

There are innumerable instances of wild African animals that have become tame and even affectionate towards their human masters. "Out in the blue" near the Zambesi river, a native commissioner kept a small grey monkey and a young baboon as his constant companions. A store-keeper of my acquaintance made a pet of a young zebra, which he kept for several years before selling it to a circus.

Astride the Eland

Again, the young children of a Rhodesian farmer I knew had two horned eland pets, stately animals that stand as high as the average hack, which they used to ride, complete with reins and saddles.

In Africa, as elsewhere, however, the dog is the most favoured companion for lonely men. A well-known local breed is the Rhodesian lion dog, or ridgeback, so called from the ridge of hair that runs "across the grain" up its spine. These dogs are utterly fearless and will keep a lion at bay or a leopard treed.



Spring is on the Way

A beautiful array of narcissi, grown in the Scilly Isles, brings a welcome promise of Spring.

IN SEARCH OF THE PERFECT SHIP

THOUGH 25 years of shipbuilding progress was telescoped into the six war years, and new British ships are attracting orders from foreign owners despite severe competition from abroad, our builders, not content to rest on their laurels, are still seeking the perfect ship.

Some time ago Clyde builders had a plate of polished steel sunk in the Firth of Clyde. Salvaged, it retained its rustproof surface and no shellfish had accumulated on it. Now, in addition to pressed steel, polished on one side, stainless steel and shining light metal alloys are being incorporated in new ships.

Today two ship sections are anchored in a Clyde lock in order to test the effect of exposure and moisture on the toughened steel of which they are made.

Although they have achieved a fuel saving of £1,000,000 annually on ships for which they have developed new profiles, propellers, and turbine blades, Clyde engineers are at present experimenting on a modified marine

gas-turbine, the success of which would mean that many of these new developments would be scrapped.

Another question which has given rise to one of the greatest controversies since the change from wooden to iron ships will shortly be settled. This question is: "Which are better, riveted or welded ships?"

After hundreds of laboratory tests with models, experiments were carried out at sea in the 10,000-ton American-built all-welded vessel Ocean Vulcan. The results will soon be in the hands of British builders. Now an all-riveted ship, the Sunderland-built Clan Alpine, is being tested around the English seaboard. Her empty holds are being suddenly flooded and the group of science workers aboard can ascertain, by reading instruments, if any distortions have occurred. The strain on her rivets will be compared with that on the welded seams of the Ocean Vulcan, and the result should end a great controversy.

The Skill of the Railway Horse

WHEN the first railways were laid in this country horses were used to pull the trucks, and horses are still used on our railways. The GWR has 20 of them on its pay-roll. They have been selected for their strength, and are used for light shunting work where it is not economical to employ an engine.

It is not hard work for old Dobbin; he is carefully trained in the knack of getting a railway wagon on the move. Normally a cart-horse will throw all its weight into its collar at the moment of starting. But that is not a bit of good in shifting a railway wagon. A sudden jerk just fails to move it at all. Gently does it, railway Dobbin is taught. He learns to exert a gradually increasing pressure, and, once he has got the truck moving, it is easy work for him to keep it going.

He wears a special harness which can be attached to the coupling hook of a wagon. He can boast that in his particular job he is thoroughly efficient.

WHITE CHALK

WE are all interested in making the most of our allowance of fuel, and a Kentish friend of the CN tells us how valuable chalk can be as an addition to the normal supply. Years of experience in a district where chalk is readily obtainable have taught her that if coal-dust is sprinkled on a small, established fire, with an addition of half a dozen or more lumps of chalk, each four or five times the size of a walnut, heat and a long-lasting glow are assured.

The chalk does not all powder away, so when the fire burns down she does not rake it out, but puts on more coal-dust, and, if necessary, three or four more lumps of chalk. Warmth is thus assured, and the saving of fuel is most marked.

IVANHOE—Sir Walter Scott's Great Historical Romance, Told in Pictures

The crowds at the Tournament, among them Cedric the Saxon and his ward, Rowena, gazed curiously at the unknown knight who had challenged the redoubtable Bois Guilbert to combat with pointed lances. The unknown knight's face was hidden by his visor, and his shield bore

the word Desdichado (Unfortunate). The only onlookers who had any idea of his identity were the old Jew, Isaac of YorR, and his daughter Rebecca. For the day before a wandering pilgrim from the Holy Land had warned him that the ruthless Norman, Bois Guilbert, intended to waylay

Isaac and torture him to make him give up his money. In gratitude for his escape, and suspecting that the pilgrim was a penniless crusader in disguise, Isaac had given him a scroll with which he could obtain horse and armour from a friend, and so take part in this tournament.



Desdichado and Bois Guilbert faced each other at either end of the lists. Then the trumpets signalled the charge. As the knights clashed, Bois Guilbert's saddle-girths burst and horse and rider fell, so Desdichado was adjudged winner. But Bois Guilbert stood up and drew his sword. Desdichado did likewise. The Marshals separated them, for sword duels were not allowed that day.



After that Desdichado defeated four more opponents. He was proclaimed Victor of the Day and thus had the privilege of choosing the Queen of Beauty and Love to preside over tomorrow's general encounter between two sets of knights. Still without raising his visor, Desdichado chose the fair Rowena.



Next day the mêlée was fought between one party of knights led by Desdichado, and another led by Bois Guilbert. Desdichado's side would have lost but for the sudden appearance of a mysterious black-armoured knight who unhorsed Desdichado's assailants and then rode away. Desdichado was thus again Champion and received the Chaplet of Honour from Rowena.



Someone snatched off his helmet and revealed him as Wilfred of Ivanhoe, who had been disinherited by his father, Cedric, for being Rowena's lover! Ivanhoe now sank to the ground, for he had been grievously wounded. Cedric led Rowena away and the stricken champion was left surrounded by strangers.

What happened to the wounded Ivanhoe? See next week's instalment of this thrilling story

WHAT ARE MOTHAKS?

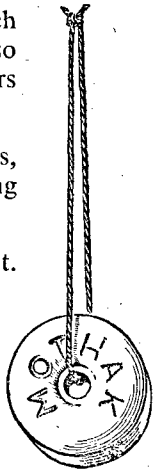
MOTHAKS are dainty little tablets, each threaded with a loop of art silk cord so that they hang easily on clothes hangers and hooks in the wardrobe.

They will protect all your favourite frocks, suits, coats, jumpers and other clothing from the risk of damage by moths.

They are pleasant to use and very efficient.

See that there is a MOTHAK protecting each garment in *your* wardrobe.

A bag of eight MOTHAKS costs 8d. Only a penny to guard a garment from harm for several months.



Made by
THOMPSON & CAPPER WHOLESALE LTD., LIVERPOOL, 19

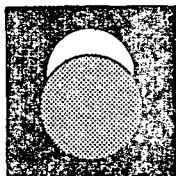
ALGOL'S GREAT ECLIPSING SUN

By the C N Astronomer

ALGOL, the famous Demon Star as it was called centuries ago, was referred to in our description of the chief stars of Perseus in the C N of February 1, and its position was then shown on the star-map. The bright star Algol will now be found a little west of overhead at about 8 p.m.

The name Algol is derived from the ancient Arabic Al-Ghul, meaning the Demon, or Ghoul, and represents the Head of Medusa, in the constellation of Perseus.

Algol occupies the centre of the forehead of Medusa's Head. The constellation is between 3000 and 4000 years old, and evidently the periodical dimming of Algol's light was noticed long ago and caused it to be known as the Winking Star or Winking Demon.



Algol is now known to astronomers as Beta Persei, and its apparent winking is due to the fact that Algol is composed of two great suns. One of these is very bright; and the other, though larger, radiates but little light and somewhat resembles a gigantic planet whose luminosity has died down. This larger sun is relatively close to the brilliant central sun, averaging but 2,174,000 miles away from it and speeding round it at an average rate of 28 miles a second. As it revolves, this colossal body periodically passes partly between us and the great central sun and therefore partly eclipses it, at most regular intervals of 2 days, 20 hours, and 49 minutes. As a result we receive rather less than one-third of Algol's light.

A Planet's Power

Algol is an immense sun, radiating about 150 times more light than our Sun. Now, as the eclipses take about five hours from the beginning of the decline in Algol's brilliance, it is obvious that the eclipsing body must be very large; as already mentioned, it is larger than the sun round which it revolves. It must, however, be composed of light material and be much less dense, or this could not happen. It is probably composed chiefly of cloud and dull fire-dust, with a relatively small and denser centre which possesses sufficient gravitational power to pull the great central sun of Algol over a million miles out of its central position, and so make it travel round in a smaller orbit within that of this great obscuring planet. Each eclipse we observe took place 93 years before, this being the time the diminished light has taken to reach us from a distance 5,886,000 times farther than our Sun.

This remarkable solar system of Algol has in addition a fiery world at a distance from the central sun averaging 116 million miles, and that takes 1 year, 323 days to revolve round it.

Though the apparent "winking" of Algol happens so frequently, it is seldom to be observed at convenient hours; but two occasions will occur in a fortnight and will then be dealt with.

G. F. M.

South African Postbag

It is reported that a Harrismith farmer was passing his house when he saw a cow's tail hanging from a window. He stopped and stared, hardly able to believe his eyes. Then he rushed inside—and found a cow standing in the bath-room! It had eaten his shaving-brush and soap!

At Paarl in Cape Province, while some picnickers were sitting under a tree, a "boom-slang," a most poisonous tree snake, fell from a branch among them. It fell close to a small European girl, who immediately jumped up and grabbed the reptile and threw it away. It then glided off towards a spot where some other children were playing. Fortunately a male member of the party grabbed the snake by the tail and, swinging it round, smashed its head against a rock and so killed it. But the little girl's action undoubtedly saved someone from being bitten.

To catch at least 150 monkeys a month, to earn his £50 a month salary from the Durban Corporation, is the task confronting Captain G. L. Jones, a well-known big game hunter and explorer, appointed as monkey-catcher. He will have the job for some five months, during which time the monkeys in the bush close to Durban which have become a nuisance to local residents are to be transported to fresh fields and let loose.

An 18-months-old baby boy in Bloemfontein was suffering from whooping cough. The doctor suggested a flight at a high altitude and the S.A. Air Force were asked to assist, and willingly agreed. Up to 3000 feet the baby cried, after which he went to sleep and the aircraft reached 12,000 feet. On the return to ground it was found that the child had made a complete recovery.

THE C N SCHOOL QUIZ

Over 1000 Cash & Other Prizes to be Won

WIDESPREAD interest has been aroused by our announcement of another big C N competition for schoolboys and schoolgirls.

The competition is an attractive pictorial Knowledge and Intelligence Test in which prizes to the value of over £500 are offered, and is open to all full-time pupils of school and colleges in the British Isles (including Eire and the Channel Islands).

The contest is arranged in TWO AGE GROUPS: Group 1 is for pupils under 11, and Group 2 for those aged 11 to under 17. *Each group has its own separate test (on separate Entry Forms), and each with the following cash prizes for both schools and pupils:*

SCHOOL PRIZES—First, £25; Second, £10; Third, £5.
PUPILS' PRIZES—First, £5; Second, £3; Third, £2.

1000 CONSOLATION PRIZES will be awarded in addition, their winners to have choice of: Aeroplane Construction Set, Drawing Set, Fountain-pen, Model Yacht, Artist's Colours.

The prizes will go in order of merit to the entries which are correct or most nearly so, writing and neatness being taken into account in the case of ties.

The school prizes will be presented to the schools attended by the principal winning pupils while the 1000 other prizes will be divided in proportion to the number of entries in each group.

Entries in the C N School Quiz must be made on the special Forms which contain the tests, and which are being issued free through schools. Thus, if you would like to win a prize for your school, as well as one for yourself, please show this announcement to your teacher (if you have not already done so), and ask him or her kindly to complete the coupon below and send it to C N. Requests for Forms must

give school name and address, as the Forms will be sent to be handed out at school.

When completed, every entry is to have affixed to it one of the tokens (marked "£500 School Quiz") now appearing at the foot of the back page of C N, and should be signed by the teacher. Completed entries are to be sent in in accordance with the full rules which accompany Entry Forms. Closing date for entries is March 19.

NOTE TO TEACHERS. Paper shortage makes it important that Forms be supplied only for the expected number of entrants in each group. Teachers are invited to assess their needs closely, and fill in and post this application coupon. (Id stamp only if sent in unsealed envelope!) All applications must reach C N by February 28.

To the Editor, CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER,
Room 171, The Fleetway House, London, E C 4 (Comp).

Please send me (post free) the undermentioned supplies of the C N School Quiz Entry Forms for my pupils:

GROUP 1 No. of forms required GROUP 2 No. of forms required

PRINCIPAL/CLASS
MASTER or MISTRESS

School.....

School Address.....

2

ANIMAL LIFE DOWN UNDER

A BATTLE between two whales and thresher sharks off the beach at Collaroy, near Sydney, was recently watched by crowds on the beach and headlands. Clouds of spray rose into the air. A surf boat put out, but retreated under the threat of furious blows from the fighters, which all finally disappeared out to sea. The two whales had been cruising round for over a week.

THE curator of the Auckland Zoo in New Zealand has named the young hippopotamus Cetewayo. All male hippopotami at this zoo have been named after Zulu chiefs, with one exception, and all the females after Rider Haggard's heroines.

Two of the four tiger cubs at the Wellington Zoo, unofficially named after the four Maori M.P.s, have been sent to Auckland.

It's time you had a

BSA

Yes, it's a winner all the way!

B.S.A. Cycles Ltd., Birmingham, 11.

8

THE BRAN TUB

INCOMPLETE

"I'm a self-made man."
"Then why on earth didn't you finish the job?"

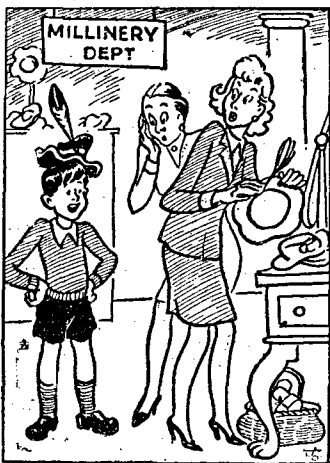
Puzzle Limerick

SAID a certain young farmer
called Back,
This I will for a
snack,
Then the . . . for the sheep
I will go out to
And ride back to the farm on my
hack.

Four different arrangements
of the same four letters make the
missing words. What are they?

Answer next week

RODDY



"Look, Mummy! They ought to
sell this one in the toy depart-
ment!"

THE DUNCE

THERE was a young scholar
called Gee,
Who for learning had no faculty.
Said his master, "Dear me,
You're a dunce double dee."
When he answered that twice
two was three.

Pithy Proverb

MONEY buys all things except
those that matter most.

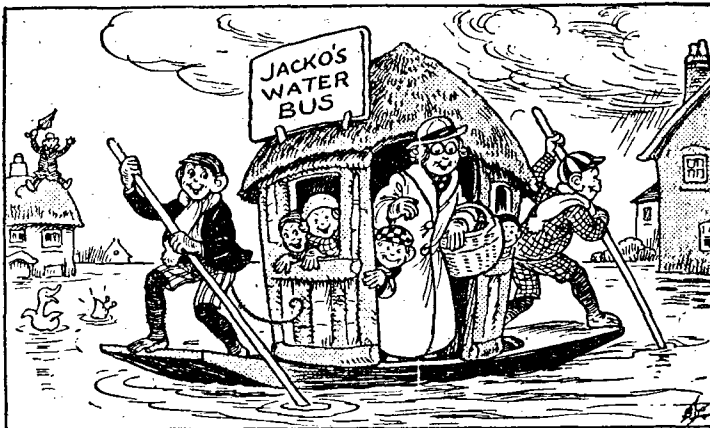
BEDTIME CORNER

MOLLY'S LOVELY VALENTINE

WHAT do you think has
happened?
You'd never, never guess;
This very, very morning
The postman came and, yes,
He really truly brought me
A lovely Valentine!
It says outside, "For Molly,"
And so I know it's mine.

Just look—what lovely roses!
And see that teeny dove,
Up high among the branches!
And read this: "To my Love."
And if you lift this shutter
The dearest little face
Peeps out and smiles up at
you,
And see—what pretty lace!

Who do you s'pose has sent it?
The postman doesn't know,
And everybody in the house
Looks at it and says, "No."
If you won't tell I'll whisper—
I found it on a shelf,
And put it in an envelope
And sent it to myself!



THE river had burst its banks and the whole of Jacktown was flooded, leaving many people marooned in their houses. But Jacko had a good idea. He got hold of a punt from the river and with the help of Chimp lifted the old summerhouse on to it. Then they set off to the rescue and to enjoy themselves at the same time. "They may have been stranded," chuckled Jacko, "but they weren't left high and dry."

Equal Chance

"EVER been on a horse before?"
inquired the riding-school
sergeant.

The raw recruit shook his
head.

"Well, here's your opportunity.
This horse has never been
ridden, either, so you can make a
start together."

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

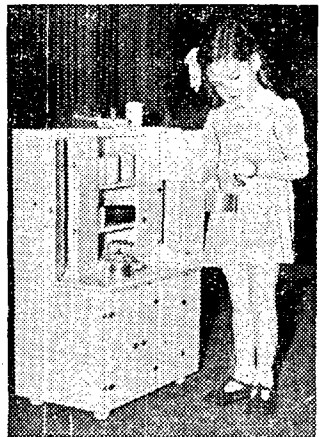
The Barren Strawberry. "Wild
strawberries!" exclaimed Don
gleefully, pointing to several
small white flowers growing
beneath the hedge. But Don's
visions of feasting on the sweet
wild fruit were soon dispelled.

"They are Barren strawberry
plants," Farmer Gray explained.
"Although similar in appearance,
the five petals of the true Wild
strawberry are larger and they
grow closer together. The leaves,
too, are of a brighter green, with
veins more deeply cut than those
possessed by the Barren straw-
berry. Finally, the barren variety
is one of the earliest plants to
flower, often blooming in
February. True Wild strawberry
plants seldom flower until April."

Prayer

TEACH me, O gentle Saviour,
To use the hours and days,
With thrift and thought and
graciousness,
In helpful, fruitful ways.
Amen

"Now I wonder if it's
cooked?"

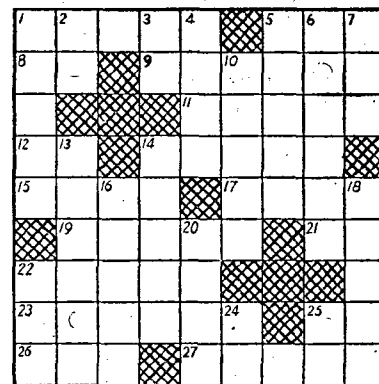


Jacko's Transport Service

Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 A bird rests
on this. 5 Towards the stern. 8
Road. 9 Keeper of a Royal park.
11 To pass to and fro across a river.
12 Chemical symbol for sodium. 14
To guide. 15 The nautical mile. 17
A thing done intentionally. 19 Angry.
21 In the direction of. 22 Equitable
portion. 23 Powerful. 25 In the
manner set forth. 26 French unit of
square measure. 21 A slender candle.
Reading Down. 1 A practical joke.
2 Editor. 3 Creditor. 4 Handle of
a knife. 5 To be in harmony. 6 A
rat-catcher. 7 To attempt. 10 Re-
quirements. 13 Used for mooring a
ship. 14 A stock of something. 16
To make a speech. 18 A giver. 20
Ordered away. 22 Health resort with
a mineral spring. 24 Territorial
Army. 25 Compass point.
Asterisks indicate abbreviations.
Answer next week

The Children's Newspaper, February 15, 1947



ANAGRAM

A WORD of four letters—I'm
water inland:
Transpose—I'm a vegetable now,
understand:
Transpose once again, and when
Jack Frost's about
To cure me a plumber you'll have
to seek out. Answer next week

Catch Question

WHAT would be the first words
you would say if your hat
blew off?

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Three Smart Girls
Irene; Maria; Agnes.
Jumbled Australian Cricketers
Hassett; Lindwall; Bradman; Dooland;
Toshack; Tallon.

Other Worlds

IN the evening Saturn is in the
south and Uranus is in the
south-west. In
the morning
Venus is in the
south-east and
Jupiter is in the
south.

The picture
shows the Moon
as it may be
seen at 7 o'clock on the morning
of Friday, February 14.

Children's Hour

BBC programmes from Wednesday,
February 12, to Tuesday, February 18.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 Another Toy-
town story. 5.35 Timbuctoo—a
travel talk. Scottish, 5.35 Jing-
ling Gordie—a Jeweller to James
VI of Scotland. Welsh, 5.0 Rickie,
Lazybones—a story; Bay the
Moon—a play. West, 5.35 Young
Artists.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Captain Blood
(Part 2). 5.40 Gramophone re-
cords. Scottish, 5.0 All Aboard
the Barge (Part 5); The Crocodile
Men (Part 2). Welsh, 5.30 What's
in a Picture?—an Art talk; Write
Down Your Answers. West, 5.40
Plant Life in Winter (No 5).

FRIDAY, 5.0 A story. 5.15
Regional Round.

SATURDAY, 5.0 A Ballet, with
the City of Birmingham Orchestra;
Even When it Rains—a country
talk. Northern Ireland, 5.0
Astronomy talk; Competition;
another Mr Murphy and Timothy
John story; Alec Rogers (songs).

SUNDAY, 5.0 Verse and Music
about Animals. 5.30 Choir of St
Felix School, Southwold.

MONDAY, 5.0 Two "Just-So"
stories, by Kipling.

TUESDAY, 5.0 Arctic Rescue—
another "Taffrail" play. 5.40 The
Sports Coach. Midland, 5.40
Judith and the Dolls (Part 1).
Northern Ireland, 5.0 Astronomy
talk; Bran Looks For a Brown
Bear; Tongue-twister Bee; Songs.

10/NOTES

MUST BE WON BY
BOYS AND GIRLS

Every boy and girl should get Uncle
Oojah's Cash-Prize Colouring Book
and enter the Free Painting Com-
petition. 10/- Notes and books must
be won every month. Uncle Oojah's
Colouring Book is 1/6 from book-
sellers, newsagents, etc. Get yours
—before they sell out!

Walters
Palm
TOFFEE
The Public Preference

Here's FOOD
RICH IN
NOURISHMENT
WELGAR
SHREDDED WHEAT

£500 School Quiz

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